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# THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD

*Articles on Europe*
*Missionary Letters*

*Published monthly except July and August*
*by the*
AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP
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VOLUME XVII

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January
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THE PROMISED PRESENCE

*"Certainly I will be with thee,"*
*Promise of comfort and cheer,*
*Shedding its glory and sunshine*
*Over the opening year.*
*Nought can I see of the future,*
*Hidden its gladness or woe,*
*But, with this blessed assurance,*
*Trustfully onward I go.*

*On to the end of life's journey*
*With me His presence shall go,*
*Bearing my burdens, and giving*
*Victory over the foe.*
*His presence is my salvation,*
*So on His promise I rest;*
*"Certainly I will be with thee,"*
*Certainly thou shalt be blest.*

*—Freda H. Allen.*

# THE EUROPEAN HARVEST FIELD

**Published monthly (except July and August) by the American-European Fellowship for Christian Oneness and Evangelization**

**1213 North Franklin Street Philadelphia, Penna.**

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## Devoted to Evangelization, Bible Distribution and Relief Work in Europe

This magazine is not backed by any church organization or religious denomination. It is published solely to spread missionary information concerning Central and Eastern Europe and to provide spiritual food for its readers. Christian friends subscribing for it help to make it more nearly self-supporting and thus aid the work in general. Prompt renewal of your subscription when it expires will be appreciated.

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We shall be thankful for names and addresses of Christian friends, to whom we may send sample copies of the magazine. We appreciate your sympathetic co-operation with us.

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# DEVOTIONAL AND EDITORIAL

## Safety and Security

By Rev. J. B. Epp

WHAT a comfort it is to be safe and secure for eternity, especially in our day, when nothing seems safe and secure anywhere in this world! On that memorable night in Egypt, God said, "When I see the blood I will pass over you." Not their behaviour, nor their religion, nor anything else made the Israelites safe and secure except the blood on the doors, placed there in simple obedience to the command of God. They probably did not fully understand the meaning of it all, but those who obeyed were safe.

In all ages, however, there have been modernists, rationalists, liberalists, etc., who have tried to persuade themselves and others that we must not rely on such old traditions as, for instance, "that old blood-religion" for our assurance of faith. On what, then, should we rely? They themselves are agnostics. They say so themselves, for they claim that we cannot be sure of anything—the only thing we can do is to keep on investigating. How interesting that is! "Seek the Truth" is their slogan. They even capitalize Truth. In fact, they use Scriptural language, as far as possible, which makes their writings and sayings just so much more dangerous, for people who are comparatively ignorant of consistent Bible teaching feel that they are Biblical when they use Bible words. Oh, how subtle! And Truth is to be sought everywhere, but last and least in Him who is the Truth. Extracted "principles" of the sayings of that great man Jesus are taken into consideration along with Truth (?) found elsewhere. The Hopi Indians in Arizona, having about 100 gods, did not object to Jesus being their god No. 101, if only He could help to bring more rain. He was granting the white man so much rain!

But where is there real safety, security, and comfort for the soul in any or all of this agnosticism—this "cannot-know-ism"? And when will they have "fully investigated"? How much longer must we wait for assurance? Our souls would be miserable indeed in all this age-long uncertainty.

We are also to believe that that old, worn-out "blood-religion" is of heathen origin, one of the many relics which we should have out-lived and cast off long ago. Such thought and teaching is evolutionary, pure and simple, and, therefore, fits nicely into modern liberalism. If all their investigative arguments are as false as this one (and we fear they are—at least we have no assurance that they are not) then where is the first real fact that is to give us anything to stand on for safety and security? In this case, at least, it is just the other way around. It is an historic fact that the offerings of the heathen, and the many superstitious ceremonies of the Catholics, are degenerated relics of the original institutions of God for man, and especially later for Israel. And

such are nearly all, if not all, the heathen ceremonies—distorted imitations of God's original institutions for salvation.

We missionaries know much about this, also, from our direct contact with the heathen. They themselves tell us so, too. They freely acknowledge the truth of the statements in Romans one, as to man's perversion of God's order, and the evolution *downward.* Read the second half of the first chapter of Romans.

Such, then, is the trend of this misleading, modernistically religious thought, which is supposed to lead men forward and upward in the evolutionary progress (?) when, in fact, it leads backward and downward into unbelief and into modern civilized heathenism, taking away all real security.

We want to rest securely in *what God institutes, in and through His Son, who is the Truth!* God says, "*I have given . . . the blood*" (Lev. 17:11)—the heathen have not invented it. And this is the means of salvation. There is safety and security provided from "before the foundation of the world."

To mention again and again these negative matters seems necessary, if for no other reason than for contrast, that we might see the truth more clearly. We read in the Book that the center and substance of Paul's preaching is the Gross, or, in other words, the blood that flowed from Calvary's Cross. Jesus did not only show and prove to us His love there by dying as a martyr, but infinitely more. Paul, yea the Holy Spirit, through Paul, uses the expression, "We preach Christ, and Him crucified." And this as a substitute for us, who deserved that punishment of death for our own sin! A man may die as a martyr for a friend or for a good cause, but not as a substitute before God for another's sins. No, no! The blood of Christ, our only substitute before God, is our comfort and our only safety. "God hath laid upon Him the iniquity of us all"—efficacious for those who accept it, but in vain for those who reject it.

This thought of substitution is very obnoxious to the rationalist, who is too much of a *man* to have another take the punishment for him. Some actually get enraged over the "utter injustice" of an innocent one suffering for a guilty one. But God "hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin." This is God's way of mercy for us poor hopeless sinners. We humbly accept it—and rest securely!

Again we are asked: "Do you mean the real physical blood of Jesus is our safety, by faith? Is not the blood only a symbol of the life that He imparts to any man who wishes to live right? Is not the spirit that He gives the spirit of love? Is not that all, and enough?"

We mean His physical blood, of course, for that is the only blood He had to offer for us. Accepting that as our ransom we find salvation, and this precious truth we will not have taken from us! Call it an old relic if you wish, but, if so, it is a most blessed "relic." Indeed, the blood-religion runs like a crimson thread all through the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. And not only does it run through the Old and New Testaments, but even up *into heaven!* John the Revelator saw before the Throne in heaven a Lamb as it had been slain (Rev. 5:6) and with His own blood He entered into heaven itself (Heb. 9: 11-14) there to appear in the presence of God for us. And that was His real blood! It does not say "with His great love" but "with His blood." This blood speaks for us who believe, in high heaven itself! I have

nothing more to add. As the blood at the door posts of the Israelites was their *only* safety and security, so the blood of Christ is our security, now and forever. In this we rest assured, fully trusting in "Christ and Him crucified," and sing "Blessed Assurance."

## Full Assurance Of Faith

(*Hebrews 10:22*)

By Pastor Herbert Hogg

FAITH rightly understood and exercised is a priceless boon. We live in a day when saving and living faith are little understood; are confused, and not exercised. God seeks to beget faith. The Word of God, with its "exceeding great and precious promises," is the sphere in which faith is to be exercised and developed (Rom. 10:17; 2 Pet. 1:4).

As someone has well said, "Faith is the correlative of promise." Faith and promise are to be in a reciprocal relation. The virtue of our faith is in the virtue of its object. Therefore, let our faith be in the never-varying Christ, in all of His saving, keeping, satisfying, transforming, and using power. Then we shall realize the virtue He gives in all these respects.

Hebrews 4:2 and Hebrews 10:22 are in contrast. In the former, "the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard." In the latter, we are exhorted to "draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith." We are to appropriate the "new and living way" by ratifying what our Lord has done.

The Apostle Paul knew that he had done this and he lived in the power and blessing of the "full assurance of faith" (2 Tim. 1:12). Luther knew that he believed God and His Word, and the Reformation was the result. Let us examine ourselves, to see if we be in the faith (2 Cor. 13:5). Unbelief and disbelief never please God; taking Him at His Word does (Heb. 11:6).

## EARNEST PRAYER REQUESTED

**WE HAVE two workers whom we are desirous of sending to the field quickly. Miss E. H. Steyrer, an experienced missionary, is sorely needed in Central Europe. Our Chicago Council would like to have Miss Steyrer go soon. Miss Helen Carlberg is also needed to reinforce Miss Christoffersen in her growing work. We covet your prayers that funds needed for outgoing and allowance may be speedily forthcoming.**

# An Encouraging Report

By Miss T. Christoffersen (Poland)

"YOU also helping me by your supplications for me, that thanksgivings may from many tongues be offered up on my behalf, for the blessing gained to me by many prayers" (II Cor. 1:11, Con. Trans.).

After the wonderful evangelization of the summer, with such privileges as to make one forever grateful to God, I went, as you all know, to the mountains for rest, and it was a very blessed time. Beautiful late summer days, the walks in the mountains, where the Vistula River has its source, the meditation on the Word, time for much prayer, the fellowship God gave me with other believers, and opportunities to witness for my Lord—these made it a real season of refreshing for spirit, soul, and body.

Miss Christoffersen and Helper

On my way back home to Warsaw I stopped in Krakow, the most historical city of Poland, where I had made an appointment to spend two days with one of my best friends, in order that I might enter into the spirit of the land in which I am now living and whose language I am striving hard to learn. In the midst of the many big churches we visited the Citadel, the burial place of the great kings of the past, and made haste to find the place where the remains of Pilsudsky, the man who has done more for the Poland of today than any other, are now kept. It gave us cause for meditation as we beheld earthly greatness reduced to nothing, although enshrined in a silver casket.

We walked outside the city wall, through a forest and up the hill on the top of which is being built a rather unique monument for Pilsudsky, being made of earth from all lands. The most striking and touching part of it is the fact that here all the people of Poland are given the privilege of having a part in building this memorial for their honored and beloved leader. We saw children of five or six years, enthusiastic youth, men and women, young and old of all classes and ages, with their wheelbarrows, wanting to have their share in this memorial. What if all, small and great, wanted with like interest to have a share in building the church of Jesus Christ, which is His body? We became thoughtful and prayerful in the presence of this demonstration.

Then, home in Warsaw to begin the winter's work. This year I have rented a room outside, near Ogrodowa, and we are using the entire mission hall for meetings and classes. We are hoping to move shortly after Christmas. We cannot afford not to have proper rooms for the work which He has entrusted to us, and we ask continued prayer for everything in connection with this forward step.

Our greatest joy this year is the little assembly which we have each Lord's Day with a few believers, the fruit of last summer's work. Some earnest seekers, also, are coming. They are really all believers, but are not strong enough to confess Christ and bear His reproach outside the camp. It must gladden your hearts, all you who have stood with us in prayer and ministered to us of your substance, to know that God has thus honored your faith. If you could see us with our Bibles (they are literally learning to read the Word of God), if you could hear these Jewish men and women sing, and then see them kneel and pray from their hearts, you could not but offer praise and be strengthened to keep on, in spite of all opposition.

Then, the joy of visiting our children, of whom we have the names and addresses of about four hundred. As we come into one of these dark, crowded dwelling places, where most of our friends live, the children gather around us. We sing with them, have always the Word of God in our hearts and pockets, and in almost every home we are privileged to pray. We aim to do this that God's peace may be left with them.

Our dear friend who supplies the Scriptures for us can rejoice in his privilege of giving to all these homes a copy of the New Testament, which we ask them earnestly to read day after day. In the homes where family worship is being established, they will have a whole Bible presented to them this Christmas.

All our weekly meetings are well attended. In addition to this, we have opened up a new work in a nearby town, Falenica, which has a large population of Jews and has been without a single witness for Christ. We feel that God's hand guided us as to the place of our meetings. A gracious lady, although Catholic, being interested in doing something for the sadly neglected Jews, gave us two rooms at a reasonable rent. As it is in the same house as the police station, we feel somewhat protected, for you may know that among these fanatical Jews we can expect the stones. God has already begun His work. A small group of children are coming, quite a few young women, and also men in the evening. We are there twice a week.

In my walk among the poor, as I see and feel their need of anything and everything, and think of how I might help and bless them at this season, I wonder how I can come anywhere near to meeting their needs with what I have in my heart and hands. Then there comes to my mind the verse, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift"—unspeakable, because there are no words to express all that is included in this gift, which is suited to meet every need and every longing of every human heart. And so my heart is moved to prayer for all the children and the mothers, that they may know Him with whom every other good thing is so freely given.

We have this year eliminated from Ogrodowa all activities, giving ourselves wholly to the ministry of the Word and the prayer of faith that many souls may be born again, and we feel a marked change in many. Now, we do help our friends and the children, but always secretly in the homes. They will, as far as we are able, have practical gifts for Christmas, but they will be given in their homes instead of at the mission. There has been a tendency to come in large numbers at this season of the year, and it has produced no fruit.

It is my privilege to have a co-worker who is one with me in all our work. He is deeply spiritual and concerned about the work and we always spend one day weekly in world-wide intercession. My position is not free from danger, and the many big boys and young men who come make a man worker a necessity for the sake of protection. As this young man has been a student at the university and knows the need of this class of people, both Jew and Gentile, we are asking the Lord to give us an opening to speak to them in order that we might reach them with the gospel. Please join us in this request. We also crave your earnest prayers for every need that this letter has revealed to you. We are praising the Lord for every one who is sharing in this great work of reaching the Jews with the gospel, by prayer and other interest. God bless you all with a deeper consciousness of His presence, as you celebrate His first advent and anticipate His second coming.

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## VISITING FINLAND

By N. Mosherenok

(Esthonia)

I AM glad to inform you, my dear brethren, that the gracious Lord allowed me to visit Finland again. We had sweet brotherly fellowship in God's Word, in prayer, and in partaking of the Holy Communion. Then, I have been visiting the borders of Russia in our land of Esthonia. The Lord gives us blessing, so that we have many listeners to the Word we preach, and the hearts of sinners are opened, through our weak testimony and through the power of God, to salvation in Christ. I am always so thankful to God and to you brethren for your generous help for my work. Please accept my hearty greetings. I am remembering you in prayer.

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Communion with Christ requires our coming to Him. Meditating upon His person and His work requires the diligent use of the means of grace, especially the prayerful reading of His Word. Many fail to abide because they habitually fast instead of feed.—*Hudson Taylor.*

# Work Among the Children

By John Kovalchuk (Carpathian Russia)

AS THE Christmas season approaches, we are very busy preparing our young people for their special programs. The Christmas holidays here last almost a whole month, as both Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox are observed and they are thirteen days apart. At this time the people do very little work and we have unusual opportunities for holding meetings every day. We usually have Christmas programs for our young people and Sunday School children in several different places of the large district in which we work. The children enjoy this very much and look forward to it each year with joyful anticipation. They memorize portions of Scripture, good spiritual poetry, and hymns for use in these programs. The children and, in fact, the whole congregation receive great blessing from this work.

Since the opening of our new prayer hall in Bustino, the number of children in our Sunday school is increasing. Mrs. Kovalchuk is teaching them. We were very glad to receive from the Scripture Gift Mission, in London, Gospels and other literature which have been a great help in our Sunday school work. The children take good care of their Gospels and study their lessons carefully. Some time ago a little boy came and told Mrs. Kovalchuk that his grandfather hates the Word of God and is very much opposed to his coming to Sunday school, and because he was afraid his grandfather would take his Gospel and burn it, he asked her to keep it for him until he came to Sunday school.

In the town of Neresnice, another great center of our work, Mrs. Ermslinska, our faithful co-worker, is helping us very much in the Lord's work. In spite of old age, she is very energetic and is doing a good work among the young people and children, teaching them the Word of God and good gospel hymns. The Lord is richly blessing her labors. We recently rented a small room in this town for Sunday school and other meetings, which caused an increase in the attendance and greater interest in the meetings.

Another co-worker of ours, Miss Mary Selody, is also living here. Some time ago Mrs. Weller, an aged Canadian lady, who had a private orphanage here for poor Carpatho-Russian children, passed away. After her death, her daughter, who lives in Paris, urged us to take over the care of this orphanage, as she did not feel she could entrust it to anyone else here. Although we already had more work than we could do, we felt that we must undertake this, also, so Miss Selody is there temporarily taking care of the orphanage, which accommodates thirteen children. All these children are now coming to our services, where they study the Word of God and sing our gospel hymns. They love the Lord and are very bright and promising children. In addition to this work, Miss Selody teaches in the Sunday school and prepares the children for the Christmas programs, as well as visiting in the homes.

The work among the Carpatho-Russian children

Family in Carpathian Russia

is very promising. Not long ago we had an examination for the Sunday school children in the town of Ugla, questioning them on the Gospel of Mark. Besides answering different questions on each chapter, they were also required to memorize and repeat not less than one verse from each chapter of the whole Gospel. The children usually like these examinations very much and try to do their very best. I wish you could see how happy they were at this time. Every one of them knew and quoted many more verses from each chapter than were required. Our hearts were filled with joy and thanksgiving to God for these beloved children. We are quite sure that this wonderful work will not be in vain, but will bear fruit in the future. Please pray with us, dear friends, that from among these children the Lord may raise up future workers in this great field, where the people are in such dense darkness and ignorance, not knowing the real Light, which is Christ Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. The need of workers here is most appalling. Oh, may the Lord raise up more laborers for this needy field! "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

I am also thankful to say that we have fine services in Bustino, with Sunday school for the grown folks as well as the children. Since the opening of the prayer hall, our services in general are being much better attended and our Lord is abundantly blessing our feeble efforts for Him. May His holy Name be praised forever and forever!

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## GYPSIES HEAR THE GOSPEL

By Eugene Nagy

(Hungary)

WHAT a blessed experience it is to see the experimental working of the Word (Isaiah 55:11-13) as I make visits to those who are very sick spiritually and are in sore need of the Great Physician! Armed with a goodly supply of tracts and Gospels, I now make frequent visits on my bicycle to the gypsy section and also to the large old barracks on the outskirts of the city. In the latter place 150 poverty-stricken families are housed by the city authorities. With the children included, there are over 500 persons lodged there. We gather in the large courtyard of the barracks and I proceed to read the Scripture quotations on the tracts, speaking for about five minutes on each verse as I go along.

The same method is followed at the open air gathering on the street in the gypsy quarter of the city. Few are the believers among these suffering people, who are atheists and ascribe their misery to the non-existence of God. These are the ones I am fishing for, and, thank the Lord, I am gaining ground. They listen to the Word attentively, are becoming my friends, and have begged me to come to them frequently. After the meeting, tracts are distributed, which they are most anxious to secure. A children's choir has already been organized at the barracks, and I plan to do the same for the gypsies. I am praying that the Lord will open the way for a meeting room near the barracks and also one close to the gypsy quarter, where we could gather during the coming winter season.

The establishment of mission circles for social betterment, on Christian principles, makes up the other part of my program, which I consider of great importance, also, for I know from experience that the neglect of this on the part of professing Christianity is primarily responsible for the fearful spread of atheism and Bolshevism. For this reason, I carry on this work among those who profess the name of Christ. I find it very hard, because they are in the grip of awful lukewarmness. Let us pray, dear friends, that the Lord may arouse them out of it before it is too late.

Thank and praise the Lord! Personal and gospel work, whether traveling on my bicycle on the road or in the homes of strangers, is always blessedly in order. Pray for me and for victory through Christ Jesus.

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## DYING DAILY

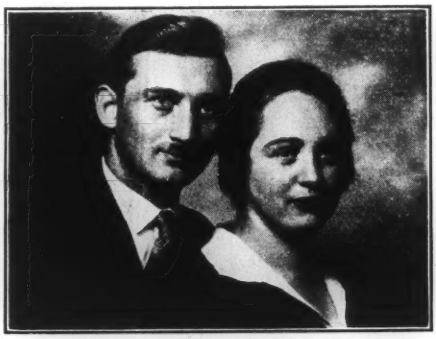
While sanctification is to be found in Christ and accepted by faith alone and received as a gift, it is at the same time a gift that leads us through work, effort, and sacrifice. It is a daily dying to self done in the midst of continual temptation, and implies the daily bearing of suffering and pain.

At every step in such a life, the will is called on to give consent; and to such a life, Scripture frequently declares there are definite and splendid rewards given by God, not because they have been deserved, but as trophies of the grace that has been accepted and which has become triumphant.—*Dr. Elder Cumming.*

# A Year Of Mercies

By Fred Stettler (Poland)

IT IS God's wonderful, undeserved grace that has brought us to the close of another year. We feel that our friends who have been so constantly and faithfully remembering us in prayer are entitled to a glimpse of the work into which we believe God has called us. Surely it will tend to more continuous and more intelligent prayer than ever. "*The prayer of the upright is His delight*" (Prov. 15:8).



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stettler

God has spoken in an unmistakable manner, and in many ways, to the people of Poland. He used an English lord to testify of Christ to the aristocratic circles in St. Petersburg in former imperial Russia. He permitted thousands of German settlers to be transplanted into many parts of former Russia. They took with them a living Christ and a living testimony and were prepared to die or go into banishment for the Name of Christ. Only God knows how many of them were actually sent to Siberia for Christ's sake.

During the last war, the German settlers were suspected of espionage. The Russian armies, forced to retreat by the approaching German armies, shipped the German population of present Poland to various districts of interior Russia. There many came in touch with the so-called Stundists of pre-war days. Many of them found Christ as their Saviour. The ground had been well prepared for the precious seed of the gospel. Loss of homes, and often loss of loved ones on the journeys which often lasted for months and were taken in box-cars that were otherwise used for cattle, made many hearts tender.

Years of banishment and revolution, of famine and homelessness, did the rest to prepare the way for a mighty revival in Poland. Miseries within and without brought the people face to face with God. There was nothing else to do. Upon their return home, they found that war had changed their fields into battlegrounds, and many a well-to-do farmer of pre-war days could hardly find the place where once his home had stood. The wells had been poisoned or jugged up with dead horses by the retreating armies. The returned settler was obliged to live for months on beets, which were ordinarily used for the cattle. The housing problem was solved first of all. They dug deep caves in the earth or built mud huts, and for months, and even years, these had to be called homes. Books could be written of their dire need and poverty.

Just this time became the greatest time of revival and blessing. The reading of the Bible or some devotional book was sufficient to cause people to fall on their faces. They spent whole nights upon their knees weeping and seeking the gracious help of God, and His presence was manifest then that it has perhaps never been since that time. Hundreds and thousands of people were spiritually awakened in various parts of Poland simultaneously. Those who were saved gave testimony of their experiences and their security in Christ, and the Word of God spread farther and farther out into new regions.

There were at that time very few missionaries or preachers. The movement grew out from among the people, and the leaders up to this day have been men with little education but with simple faith in Christ and a heart for lost souls. As the revivals spread and grew, the clergy felt it their duty to put a stop to it all. Conversion was looked upon as unnecessary. These lay brethren and believers were scolded and looked upon as fools. Those who persistently remained in the newly-found faith were excluded from partaking in the Lord's Supper and were publicly branded. As the clergy kept the records of public and civic relationship, the believers

were refused birth certificates for their children, documents of governmental importance, marriage licenses, death certificates, etc. The people who died among the believers were refused burial in the public cemetery. Often, and in some cases this is true to this day, the dead bodies remained outside the cemeteries until the police came and enforced burial by order of the county sheriff. In some instances, interment was made outside the cemetery fence. They were buried like dogs. Sometimes permission was given to bury them in unhallowed places, as they would a criminal or suicide.

Thus, the state churches left nothing undone to kill the young revival by using either legitimate or unlegitimate means. False charges were frequently preferred against believers and meetings. Thus, the believers were forced out of the state churches, but with the help of godly men in foreign countries they were registered by the government and found toleration. In spite of fierce adversities of every kind, the work grew, and although many, perhaps the majority, were intimidated, yet thousands of faithful believers remained true and were willing to bear the reproach without the camp.

If you were to come to Poland, you would find a large country of 32,000,000 inhabitants, with wonderful opportunities for personal work among the various nationalities: Poles, Russians, Ukrainians, Germans, and Jews. As the majority of the population live in the country and never read newspapers, seldom even writing letters, mostly because of extreme poverty, you would find that a series of evangelistic meetings causes quite a sensation in a village. There is a vast difference between the work here and that in any of the Western European nations, with their tendency toward religious indifference and modernism. The average man in Poland is deeply religious and receptive to gospel truth, if it is presented to him in the right way. You might find an exception in the cities, with their leaning toward Western European conditions.

Although the Polish government is doing everything in its power to improve conditions, there is still much room for improvement in the streets and roads of Poland. Boots up to the knees are a very good investment in the fall and spring. The roads are well-nigh impassable. Once I sent a card to a certain village about fifteen miles outside the city. I arrived eight days later, but the card had not yet reached them. Rural delivery of mail is very primitive. Very frequently people arrive before the telegram which was to announce them. Hygienic conditions? None worth mentioning. You find bathtubs only in cities and county seats, or in the homes of the more wealthy. The majority of the population in the country have never in their life seen a bathtub. Oh, the poverty among the people! They walk barefooted to far distant meetings until late in the fall, carrying their shoes and stockings in their hands in order to save them. Shortly before they enter the meeting room, they put them on. Among the German speaking population, conditions are far better than among the Russians or the Ukrainians. Sugar and salt are luxuries. When they do have salt, it is of the black, dirty-looking kind which is usually sold to be fed to the cattle. In many parts of the country, matches are split in two in order to economize. The majority of native Christian workers have a cow or a garden or a piece of land, as the money they receive from the assemblies would never be sufficient to support them. If Christians in Western Europe and America should withdraw their support, dozens and dozens of Christian workers would face great calamity, to say nothing of the future of the meetings.

At church doors and on the city streets, beggars everywhere! You can hardly enter a street car without having a few beggars approach you and molest you to the uttermost. You get into a train, and it is not long until a player of a violin or some other sort of instrument will come up and beg. Your front door bell will ring ten or twenty times a day, and nobody there but beggars waiting for their penny. They get a Gospel with each penny. We would gladly give them more, but if we did we would have so many beggars that we could not handle them all.

Although we have accepted invitations from practically every denomination, except the Roman Catholic and the Russian Orthodox, yet our labor within the last eight years has been confined more especially to the German-speaking Union of Evangelical Christians. There are about forty churches with possibly the same number of stations. Twenty-two Christian workers endeavor to visit them and build them up. One hundred and forty so-called lay brethren help in this work. Conversion, regeneration, separation, and the fullness of the Holy Spirit

are some of the main things that are given much attention in the proclamation of the Word. Will you not join us in prayer for these churches—for the growth in grace of those who are saved, and especially for an awakening among the unsaved? We are well aware of the fact that Satan does his best to mislead and to undo the work which we are endeavoring to do for our Lord. May the believers ever be led into a life of testimony and a walk of faith! Pray also that the believers may waken up to the necessity of living a life of sacrifice, for sooner or later they must stand on their own feet and support their own work. This is very important and we put forth every effort to that end.

Regarding our personal activity, we might say that we held an average of twenty meetings a month throughout the entire year. We visited 46 cities, towns, or villages, and within the past three months alone we travelled about 600 kilometers on the wheel, going to and from the meetings. Mrs. Stettler has found in this new field a place that is wholly her own. Every Sunday evening, girls in household service in the city come together for a meeting. Just now, before Christmas, she has also an hour of song with them during the week. Within the last week the members of three different churches have done all their Christmas baking in our home, where Mrs. Stettler shows them how to bake various cakes and cookies. Most of them know nothing but the most primitive ways of cooking and bread-baking.

In the beginning of this month we held prayer meetings in different homes each evening and derived much blessing from them. After the first week, it was suggested that we repeat this and in the course of two weeks about thirty prayer meetings were held. We feel everywhere the urgent need of prayer, which is the best antidote against indifference and the ebbing away of spiritual life. There is expectancy everywhere, for we know we are standing on the brink of great happenings on earth and in heaven, and we are looking with great expectation for the coming of Christ from heaven, the Blessed Hope.

We close this year with the impression that Europe has come into the grip of a dangerous nationalism that may, in the long run, be more subtle and dangerous than modernism. No doubt, one is coming out of the other. How much longer will we be able to labor and to enter open doors? We pray that the Lord may turn the hearts of governments "as the rivers of water" (Prov. 21:1).

We would like to express our appreciation of the love of the children of God everywhere. How much we value their thoughtfulness and interest, we cannot express in words. May the Lord who is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" compensate! We shall trust Him in simple dependence, as hitherto, for HE IS ABLE.

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## EVERY KNOCK A BOOST

By D. Mysiuk

(Poland)

IN SPITE of the difficulties, the Lord's work here is steadily moving forward. The Russian Orthodox Church, with its traditions and ceremonies, has lost its influence upon the young people. They no longer listen to the priests and they have gone far away from the Lord, but many of them are longing for the truth. When we present unto them Jesus Christ, who is the Truth, with great joy they receive Him.

In September we had two meetings in a new village, where the people had received the message of Christ and asked us to come and hold gospel meetings. On October 1st there was a Russian Orthodox Church holiday (Patron Saints' Day) in Kmiczyn. Four priests officiated at the mass services. From their pulpits they tried to turn the people against us, the followers of Christ, but to no effect. The more they speak against us, the more the people come to hear us. So, on this day we had a very blessed meeting in our village. Several people came forward, confessing their sins unto the Lord and accepting Him as their personal Saviour.

There are about thirty villages and several towns where the people keep asking us to come and hold gospel meetings, but it is impossible for me to visit them because I have to toil day by day to earn my bread and care for my family. Please pray for me and for the Lord's work here.

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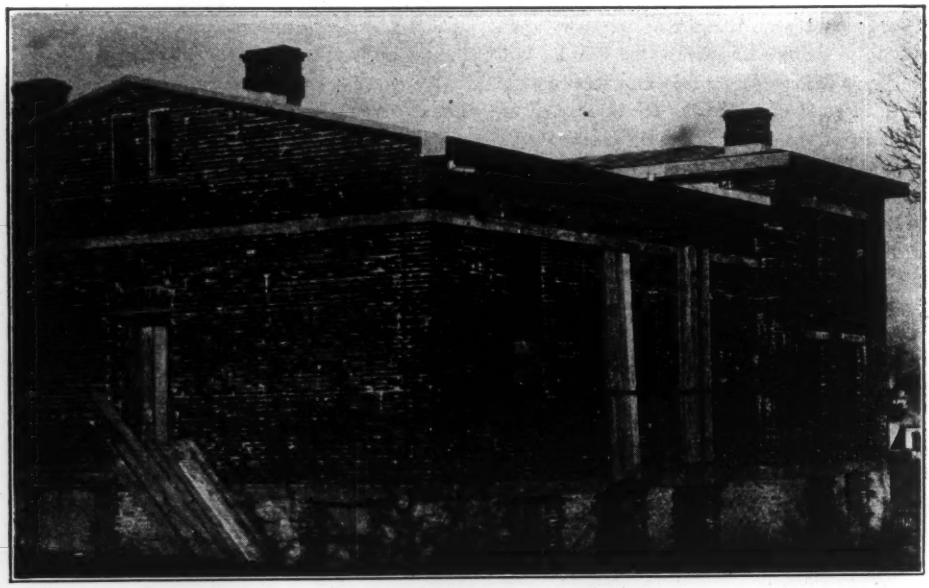
Every man is of equal value in God's sight, and for each redemption has been accomplished. God has a niche for every man to fill, He has a plan for each life, He has a place, in the economy of this dispensation, for every child of His. Are we carry-out His will for us?—*Rev. W. W. Martin.*



UNFINISHED GOSPEL HALL IN SIRET

# A Pressing Need

BY RICHARD W. HILL

AT THE close of another year of service in Roumania, we can but praise the dear Lord for all His love and the many blessings we have enjoyed. The opportunity for service in this country has never been more auspicious, and our greatest regret has been that I have been incapacitated from as active service as I would like to have rendered, because of illness. We praise Him that there is a slight improvement in my condition, but I beg all the dear friends to remember us in their petitions, so that both of us may be able to do the most possible to spread the gospel, where the hunger for the Word is so great and the door is wide open.

Most of the hindrances and persecutions of past years have ceased, for which we praise the Lord. Wherever our workers visit, they are heartily welcomed. In fact, many villages cannot be visited for lack of workers. That, also, is a matter for which we ask you to pray.

Another matter is the new gospel hall in Siret. In order to complete this building, which is an absolute necessity (for we could not obtain a building in which we could take care of the people which came to our semi-annual conferences) we will need an additional $600.00. I am enclosing a picture of the building which has been erected. Work will be resumed in the spring, provided the funds are received, and we hope to be able to use the main hall, at least, for our conference in June. The brethren here are very poor and have sacrificed splendidly, both with funds and manual labor. I ask you, dear friends, to have a part in this work by sending gifts for the completion of the building, which will be a landmark in this country, for no assembly in the whole country has such a suitable building. I am sorry the picture shows only a partial view of the building, but we were unable to take a picture at the front. Later I hope to be able to send a better view.

We thank you for your interest in the Lord's work in this country, and pray that the Lord may richly bless you all. Pray for us, dear friends.

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"Faithful is our God alway,
Our sure and perfect Stay."

# Fruitful Tract Ministry

By Charles Lukesh (Czechoslovakia)

A METHODIST preacher in Carpathian Russia wrote for 200 copies of a certain tract on Russellism, saying that there are many of that belief in his country. The wife of another minister writes that her husband is too ill to preach any longer, being in a sanitarium for his health, and she feels that she cannot even pay postage for the tracts desired. A worker under the Red Cross asks for a liberal supply of tracts, saying he has many opportunities to give them out.

A colporteur in Czechoslovakia writes that the tracts have caused many people to think deeply and only eternity will reveal the results. He says that the Sabbatists and Russellites are angry with him for spreading the messages against that error. Workers like this man, who are willing to distribute thousands of tracts, deserve to get the tracts free, at least, since we cannot give them any further help. We have quite a few of these on our list and sometimes think we neglect them by not asking help for them.

Some of the deluded souls around us get real nasty in their remarks, insisting that we let them teach us better, since we do not understand the truth they profess to have found. A Russellite from Poland writes that she is not approaching us for money nor as a seeker of truth (which she already has) but that she might answer any question on our part that might enable us, too, to learn the truth. A Sabbatist accuses us, among other things, of being under the fear of Rome, keeping their Sunday. Another Sabbatist is more kindly in his writing of four long pages, in which he advises us to turn to the Sabbatists, who will deliver us from the fear of hell. This shows along what lines they catch unwary souls, which makes it all the more necessary that we warn against these delusions.

But there are also fine examples of even suffering for the sake of the truth, as in the case of a miller's apprentice, who was chided by his master for his belief. He called his master's attention to the fact that he would have to stand before the bar of God some day, but his master answered him in indescribable language. A few days later the master was taken seriously ill and is still not out of danger, after three months have elapsed, but he has shown his attitude by throwing into the fire a package of reading matter which was addressed to the apprentice.

Of course, praise the Lord, there are also encouraging cases, where the tracts and the message find willing hearts and arouse further desire. Some of these we can visit, with the help of the car, while others are too far away and must be left to other workers. In one of these far-distant places, several souls have already been awakened and are asking for more tracts and, if possible, for a large Bible for one who is unable to buy it. They write, "We are like babes, desiring the sincere milk of the Word."

We receive a number of requests for Bibles. One man, who is over fifty years of age, complained that his father had burned his Bible and all other reading matter and requested that we send him another Bible. Another asks for one with large print, as he does not see very well. Still another asks for a second hand Bible. The writing of P. M. betrays that of a professional beggar, who is trying to get as much as possible for nothing. One learns by experience to read between the lines. M. B. asks for a Bible, but stresses the point that no bill is to follow. Two women write that they would like to be among the children of God, but they are too poor to buy Bibles and they ask whether each of them might have one, with quite large print, if possible. Others have ordered Bibles, some paying on installments and others not paying for them at all.

Experience has taught us to be discriminating and careful. It takes more time, and we wish we had more to devote to the careful following up of these various requests. Being so stressed for time, we have had leaflets printed which explain the situation and give a plan for a thorough study of the Gospel of John, which we send first, after being asked for a Bible. Upon receiving proof of their having mastered that Gospel, we send the other Gospels, eventually all. In this way, earnest seekers have a chance to be led into a thorough knowledge of what they have read. We want to be a blessing and, at the same time,

husband most carefully the money entrusted to us.

We truly appreciate all help received locally, as in the case of a friendly bookbinder in a distant town. We have just received his bid for the binding of a full collection of our tract, "The Way of Truth," when No. 100 has been printed (D. V.). It makes an interesting collection and quite a few really appreciate having it, for their own use as well as for others. We have already had several partial bindings, which were all sold out at cost price. This bookbinder now makes us a very low bid, not even asking for the money but saying we are to send him tracts for distribution, in payment of it. Would there were more like him, who were interested in something deeper than money-making!

We praise the Lord for being able to be well under way with the third million of tracts, in spite of very limited support. We are spending and being spent, not using money for even necessary medical treatment. Thus, when we put in a plea for support, it is out of dire need, trusting that someone will heed the appeal and make the continuation of our work possible while there is yet time.

## A FRUITFUL YEAR

By Joan Costi

(Roumania)

AT THE close of another year's service in the Lord's work, I feel led to write and thank you for your prayers and interest in His work in Roumania, and also for the material gifts received. May He bless you abundantly out of His riches!

I thank the Lord that we have had no hindrance in spreading the gospel this year. We have not been persecuted and imprisoned, but everywhere have found open doors and many who were hungry for the Word.

We have had the privilege of laboring among Roumanians, Hungarians, Ruthenians, and Germans, and have seen quite a few surrender to Him. The time is ripe for intensive work, but unfortunately there are few laborers, so that not nearly all the villages who invite us can be visited.

We are praying that the Lord will give us an open door in Raduti, the chief town in this district, as there is no testimony being given there. There are a few believers, but no regular assembly. Pray that the Lord may open the door there so that we can have regular meetings.

Joan Costi and Family

Quite a number were baptized this past year, among them our eldest daughter, which brought great joy to my wife and myself. The rest of our children are well, also, and we thank the Lord for all the numerous blessings of the past year. The enemy has not been idle, but we praise Him that the Word is so powerful that the attacks of the enemy can be defeated. May we always be faithful in our service and busy "in season, out of season."

There has been quite an epidemic of scarlet fever this year and some villages could not be visited on that account, the health authorities not permitting any strangers to enter the villages. However, conditions are much better now and we have freedom to go everywhere without hindrance.

We ask you to pray for us, that we may be faithful in our ministry and always mindful of our great responsibility as laborers in His vineyard. We are praying for you constantly.

## BIBLE PICTURES NEEDED

By Mrs. Paulina Nikoff

THERE is a great need of large Bible pictures to give out to the people. In Bulgaria there are no Bible pictures. We could do a wonderful work with them. If the FELLOWSHIP can find someone to send us such pictures free, we would be most grateful.

Our little orphan, Jacko Ivanoff, is very good and happy in his new home. He likes Sofia and has become attached to his boy friends in the orphanage. I will write more about him in my next report.

# Traveling Opportunities

By K. Jaroszuk

I HAVE been visiting Russian, Polish, and Jewish families, besides sick people and others with whom I could converse about the Lord. I have also been conducting prayer meetings, preaching the Word of God, and distributing Christian literature.

I attended a conference in the town of Brest-on-the-Bug, where we discussed methods for better preaching and propagating of the Lord's Word. After conference, we had a prayer meeting and a blessed time.

A few weeks later, I went with two young people, on bicycles, to the town of Visoko-Litovsk. We had had an invitation to visit them every month to give a gospel message and administer communion. On the way we had very bad weather and we reached our destination only after much difficulty, but the Lord repaid us for it all. The meeting was well attended and the people all listened carefully. Tears of joy filled their eys and they were praising the Lord. After my return home, I was ill and had to go to bed for a week, but the Lord helped me to be victorious in my soul.

The following Sunday, although I was weak from my illness, I went to a nearby village, where we had a most blessed meeting. The population of this place is mostly Polish, of the Catholic religion, and gospel work among them is very difficult and even dangerous, but the Lord opened the doors even there for His message. Among the listeners there were people also from other villages, who heard the Word of God for the first time. Some of them were Jews. At the close of the meeting, they asked me to come and visit them again. I thank the Lord for the interest shown and for the power He gave me.

One day in the early fall, all the people in our town were greatly excited. The whole day was spent in preparation to meet, in the evening, a high Catholic official. A special arch was built at the entrance to the town, with words of welcome gaily illuminated with electric lights. The official was met by the whole population, Catholic and Jewish officials heading the procession, and he was presented with the customary bread and salt. Many honors were shown him in this reception, which was followed by a ball, with dancing and plenty of refreshments. All this for a human being, but not for God! Much money was spent, while at the same time there were many who were hungry and needy, in body as well as spirit. Oh, how clear is the writing in the Word of God concerning these things!

On the last Sunday of the month, I went with a young man to the village of Turna, 16 kilometers from our home town. We were expecting a large attendance, but only eighty people were present, as the population consists mostly of Catholics. Although the meeting was not large, we had a most blessed time in the Lord. Sermons were preached in Russian, White Russian, and Polish. After the meeting, which lasted until 1.00 P. M., the majority went to a prayer meeting in a village 6 kilometers away, which was attended also by many new people from other places. The hall was soon filled with people, with many standing on the outside. The choir from Brest soon arrived. We had great difficulty in accommodating everyone, but all were satisfied. The choir sang in Russian and Polish, praising the Lord. Testimonies were given in both these languages, while the whole audience listened most attentively. Many eyes were filled with tears. After the meeting was over, the people did not want to disperse. I distributed much Christian literature in Russian, Polish, and Jewish, and this was eagerly taken by the people. They thanked me and begged me to come again. May the Lord fulfil their desire!

One day I had an opportunity to preach the gospel in a grocery store. I had gone to the store to buy some things and I met there a sister in the Lord, a member of our congregation. As there were many customers ahead of us, we had time for a little talk. She asked me many questions concerning the Word of God. I answered them in rather a loud voice, and soon the proprietor and his customers stopped their business and listened to me, so, instead of merely answering her questions, I started to preach and we had a gospel meeting there in the grocery store.

I am glad to say that among the visitors to our

evangelical meetings there are two Jewish ladies, who have confessed to me that they are interested in the teaching of Jesus Christ and would accept Him as their own Saviour any time, if it were not for fear of their people.

In most places, it is easy to notice that there is great interest manifested in the Word of God. There is much work to be done. I am not able to visit all the places to which I am invited. In proportion to the need, the workers are very few. Then, too, those workers who are busy in the vineyard of the Lord are obliged to partially support themselves by doing some outside work. In the meantime, the Lord's work is hindered. I am praying that the Lord may grant strength and also means so that His children who have consecrated themselves to His work may be able to use all their time in the work in His vineyard. I am praying that He may open doors of supply for my own needs so that I may have more strength and time to serve Him on His field, bringing souls to Him.

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## "BLOW THE TRUMPET IN ZION!"

By Charles J. Service

LISTEN, friends, to what God has to say regarding His chosen people and their land, the gift of His grace and love. "Then will the Lord be jealous for His land, and pity His people." Do you realize that God claims them as His? How dare we then treat them with such scant courtesy? Beware, friend, and heed the warning! Are we not very close to touching the apple of His eye? "And the Lord shall utter His voice before His army: for His camp is very great: for He is strong that executeth His word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?"

You cannot pass this way again, so if you would snatch a soul from death, it must be *now!* Oh, bring all the joy you can to heaven! A soul saved means joy and rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God. A soul saved or a soul lost; which shall it be? It may depend on what *I* do right now. O God, help me to do my best, by Thy grace and strength! Christ Jesus did it all for me; what shall I do for Him?

"And in that day shall the deaf hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness." Shall we, then, send them the Book (New Testament)? "The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel." Shall we have part in this great blessing?

"For the terrible one is brought to nought, and the scorner is consumed, and all that watch for iniquity are cut off; that make a man an offender for a word, and lay a snare for him that reproveth in the gate, and turn aside the just for a thing of nought. Therefore thus saith the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob, Jacob shall not be ashamed, neither shall his face now wax pale. But when he seeth his children, the work of mine hands, in the midst of him, they shall sanctify My name and sanctify the Holy One of Jacob, and shall fear the God of Israel. They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine. And they shall know that I am the Lord, when I shall scatter them among the nations and disperse them in the countries." "For I am the Lord: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass. Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. And they glorified the God of Israel."

Friends! Oh, friends! What are we going to do? What am *I* going to do, in the light of all this? To be neutral is an utter impossibility. Light has come to us—we dare not shut our eyes again! Oh, let us ask, "Lord, what wilt Thou have *me* to do in this so tremendous a matter?" It surely would be wise for you and me to find out God's plan for us, and then go ahead and do it. It is very evident that His plan for us is to carry on the work our blessed Saviour inaugurated. Throughout eternity we will rejoice that we have had the great privilege of doing it for our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Bring them in! Oh, let us bring them into the fold by means of the New Testaments! *What will you do?*

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We, who feed on Christ, are not abiding in Him and He in us merely when we direct our thoughts toward Him, feed on Him by faith, enjoy special communion with Him; but all day long and all night long; as much so when we are unconscious of His special presence as when conscious of it.—*Hudson Taylor.*

# NEWS FROM RUSSIA

## (Translated from Russian)

### CHURCH AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA

*By one of our Correspondents*

WE HAVE received information that a number of prominent Evangelical brethren, who were connected with the leadership of the evangelical movement in Russia, have recently been arrested and banished. It is strange that the Bolsheviks are now persecuting even those believers who were, to some extent, favored by them before. Old centers of the evangelical movement have recently been dismissed by the Bolsheviks. Small groups of believers, in many places in Russia, are continuing their spiritual activities and display ardent zeal in acquainting the population with the gospel. Though suffering many unspeakable hardships from within, believers in Russia are kept from attacks by many erroneous sects from foreign countries, as they are not permitted to come into Russia.

The Russian Orthodox church was very powerful before the Revolution and its representatives committed many sins. Now the same Orthodox church, being cruelly persecuted by the Soviet government, has shown some qualities of sincere faith, as well as self-sacrifice on the part of her adherents. The spiritual fire in Russia, which the Bolsheviks tried to quench by means of physical cruelty, is not only burning but giving light and warmth to the nation.

A very important event took place in Soviet Russia, so far as the Russian church is concerned. The Bolsheviks abolished the synod of the church, substituting for it temporal assemblies of the bishops. This has been done by the Bolsheviks, of course, in their own interest. The office of the Moscow Patriarch was taken by a special committee of godless Bolsheviks. The Orthodox church is destined by them to be finally destroyed, but before its full liquidation its leadership is being put into the hands of the Bolsheviks. As a matter of fact, the Orthodox church is supposed to be managed by cruel leaders from among the Bolsheviks. Yaroslovsky, who is not Russian, his real name being Gubelman, is practically managing the Russian church. The Bolsheviks have their plans made for the total destruction of all churches, but religion in Russia, as a whole, is on a very good footing. Even the Bolsheviks themselves do not believe that they will be successful in their destruction of the church.

In old Russia, there was a wonderful Temple of the Saviour, which was torn down by the Bolsheviks in 1931. This sacred memorial, with its artistic treasures, was destroyed in order to prepare a place for a gigantic palace to show the glory of Communism. This Soviet building was intended to surpass the New York skyscrapers. Some time ago, however, the Bolsheviks, with their foreign architects, discovered that the ground under this temple could not support the palace, so this temple was destroyed in vain.

In Moscow and in other centers of Russia, many Orthodox temples have been turned into theatres, educational establishments, wine shops, and junk storage places. In the side window of a certain Moscow church, there are displayed samples of champagne, while the middle part of the church, by some accident, is still left for prayer. There are ikons there, and the Orthodox people are praying before them.

In the central parts of the cities the churches have been closed, but the Bolsheviks have usually left a few in the suburbs for prayer. Evangelical Christians and Baptists each have only one meeting in Odessa, Kiev, Moscow, and Petersburg. In the evangelical churches of these cities there are still found choirs. In Moscow, Evangelical Christians have about 1,000 official members; in Petersburg there are less.

The evangelicals have no right to baptize new converts without special permission of the Soviet authorities. Permits are not always given. In order to take part in Holy Communion, Evangelical Christians must have official tickets, controlled by the Bolsheviks. In any evangelical church there is only one preacher, who has been authorized by the Soviet Government, and his assistant. This is particularly hard for evangelical believers in Russia, since their churches were always managed by

brotherly collectives rather than by the pastors, who acted in the capacity of servants. Soviet official pastors are obliged to present to the Soviet authorities statements of the conditions in the church.

There are many foreign tourists who are amazed when they listen to the singing of the Evangelical Christians in their services these days. The Russians are known to be a musical people, but now they sing without measure. They put into their singing the mood of the moment. Such inspiration is created by the unprecedented experiences they have had under the tyranny of Bolshevism. Russian believers sing from the depth of their hearts, and they cannot do so now without sorrowful slowness. Some time ago believers sang "Our Father" and when the singing reached the words, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive," the power of these words and the deeply religious music moved the congregation to tears, as they meditated on their persecutors.

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## CHILDREN IN SOVIET RUSSIA

BROTHER A. P., out of his great experiences in Russia, writes the following: "In former Petersburg, now unfortunately Leningrad, there are crowds and crowds of hungry children. They are very ragged in appearance, and sometimes half naked. These children are 'homeless' (this is a special term used for such children, who have been born in the regime of the Soviets). They live in the basements and cellars of their own houses and in holes in the earth. Most of them have no parents or, more correctly stated, they never knew their parents. The relatives of many of them died of starvation or were shot by the Bolsheviks. These children are drunkards, card players, robbers, thieves, and so on. The anarchistic 'Red' state is powerless to fight these social evils. The police fear these 'homeless' children. They are very friendly among themselves, and their energetic, united criminal force is so strong that nothing can be done with them. In some cases, a single boy or girl was caught by the police, but they were not kept in custody. They were given their freedom, because their 'comrades' threatened the police with murder, and many times this was actually done.

"In the ranks of the Soviets, 'homeless' children enter the company by some sort of a ritualistic ordination. Those who are enrolled are first instructed as to the regulations of the band. They are required to take an oath to be faithful to their society and to defend it in every possible way. If, in communistic Russia, there is no communism in reality as a state form of society, there is actual communism amongst these 'homeless' children. They have everything in common. People do not dare to walk the streets late at night, for fear of robbery by the 'homeless' children. Many girls are included in this group."

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## RELIGION IN RUSSIA

"Five Years of Eliminating Religion in Russia," was the subject assigned to F. Oletschuk by the official publishers to the Russian Soviets. The new book seems to prove that godlessness is not making good. Russians are still religious.

He says: "Religion is making progress. Godlessness is losing ground. It cannot be denied that in many places new church congregations are forming. It is an actual fact that the attendance in the churches has increased.

"In 90 per cent of the homes of the farmers endorsing the Communists' economic program, religious pictures are still to be found, and families continue to pray. In various cities, according to other reports, hidden Christian refuges like the catacombs of old Rome have been discovered."—*Our Youth.*

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## LETTER FROM RUSSIA

A BROTHER who is very active in evangelistic work in Russia writes us that he was compelled to flee from a city in central Russia to a peninsular town, in order to avoid arrest, which he was expecting because of his evangelistic activity. It was necessary for him to abandon everything in his house, and, with his family of eight, to live in one corner of a little house in his new location. His needs are indescribable and he asks us to help him, if possible

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All God's giants have been weak men, who did great things for God because they reckoned on His being with them. The man who holds God's faith will dare to obey Him, however impolitic it may appear. Abraham held God's faith, and offered up Isaac, accounting that God was able to raise him up.—*Hudson Taylor.*

## ON THE FRONTIER

By Ivan Moriakoff

(Esthonia)

IN OUR Izborsky district, on the frontier of Russia, we are continuing the proclamation of the gospel of glad tidings, among Russian peasants in a number of villages. In the village Milzy a soul recently surrendered to the Lord. It was a woman who had formerly shown much hostility toward us, and it gives us a great deal of joy to now have this one as our sister in Christ. We have new people who are not yet converted but are zealously seeking after the truth, and they are inviting us to visit them.

In another village, one more soul was converted to Christ. After our preaching, he began to call on the Lord for forgiveness. So you see that sometimes people, without a special invitation, are coming out of the crowd openly and accepting salvation.

A certain woman, a new convert, was formerly a hindrance to her husband in his spiritual life, but now a strange thing happened. She was joyfully converted but her husband became cold. After a time, however, he came back to the Lord.

Our new converts invited us to hold services in their homes, and we find it difficult to remember in just which houses we have been. It is necessary to take them in order, however, so that none of them will be grieved. There is much good in our Russian village population, but the bad part of it is that there is much drunkenness. The situation is so complicated that when a village has much beer in its cellars it is almost impossible to hold an evangelistic meeting because of serious disturbances. However, we adapt ourselves to the conditions and wait until their barrels are empty and the souls of the people, after their sinful "good time," also are empty. Then our preaching sounds good to them. They receive us and listen to us with spiritual thirst, and some of these same people are converted to God.

I am glad to inform you that we have some success among the children, too, who come to our meetings very gladly. I need special spiritual literature adapted to their needs. I thank you very heartily for your prayers for me and the work that is being done here.

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"My life is like a little boat
That sails upon the sea,
But when the waves of trouble come
Jesus is here with me.
He will stay in my boat with me,
I'm safe as safe can be;
Never a fear of storms have I,
For Jesus stays with me."

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"All spiritual experience is a locked door to the natural man, but the door will yield to the knocking of the child of God."

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The best evidence of Christianity is a Christ-like life, and the best evidence of the inspiration of the Word of God is found in the Word itself. When studied, loved, obeyed, and trusted, it never disappoints, never misleads, never fails.—*Hudson Taylor.*

Russian Children's Meeting

# MISSIONARIES AND CHRISTIAN WORKERS SUPPORTED THROUGH THE AMERICAN-EUROPEAN FELLOWSHIP

Below is a list of missionaries and Christian workers who receive full or partial support through the American European Fellowship. This is given for your prayer in their behalf. Inquiries regarding the work will be welcomed and prompt and full information given. Where desired and if it is possible to arrange, a deputational worker or missionary will be sent to present the work.

ALBANIA (1,000,000)

Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Kennedy
Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Jacques

BALTIC STATES (6,400,000)

(*Finland, Esthonia, Latvia*)

Mr. Ivan Moriakoff
Mr. Nikita Mosherenok

POLAND (30,800,000)

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stettler
Mr. John Gordiuk
Mr. A. Przeorski
Mr. D. P. Prystupa
Mr. George Nazaruk
Mr. K. Jaroszuk
Mr. Philip Manetz
Mr. Nahum Shuman
Miss Jean Rhode
Miss T. Christoffersen
Mr. Basil Bajko
Mr. Jan Wladysuk
Mr. D. Mysiuk

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (14,500,000)

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lukesh
Mr. and Mrs. John Kovalchuk
Dr. James Ewke

AUSTRIA (6,600,000)

Pastor Monsky's Work

HUNGARY (8,600,000)

Mr. Eugene Nagy (self-supporting)

ROUMANIA (17,300,000)

Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Hill
Mr. and Mrs. G. Neamtu
Mr. Lucas Badziak
Mr. Ilie Hamoliuc
Mr. Joan Costi
Miss Maria Goroholinsky
Mr. D. Andrusiac
Mr. Josef Neumehr
Mr. J. I. Schnapp

BULGARIA (5,600,000)

Mr. Constantine Marvakoff
Mrs. Pauline Dimkova Nikoff

HARBIN, MANCHURIA

S. P. Badantzeff (amongst Russian refugees)

***Russian Missionary and Relief Work Through Different Sources***

RUSSIAN MAGAZINE WORK

Mr. Alexander Dobrinin
(Reaches Thirty Different Lands)

EVANGELIST AT LARGE

Prof. V. Martcinkovsky

*Funds for other evangelical and approved workers in countries of Europe will be forwarded.*

# A Peep Into A Jewish Mother's Heart

By Miss T. Christoffersen (Poland)

"BUT whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him" (I John 3:17)?

In the closing days of this year, days that are so dark and short, while walking in the slums of Warsaw and witnessing such deep sufferings that the whole almost seems like the valley of the shadow of death, there is in my own heart a deeper note of thanksgiving for life itself. What a privilege to be a servant of the Most High, to prepare the way of the Lord, to give unto His people a knowledge of salvation through the remission of their sins, to tell of the tender mercy of our God whereby the Day-spring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide their feet into the way of peace!

A letter came into my hands a few days ago which has spoken deeply to my heart, and as I am led by the Spirit of God to share it with you I trust it will speak to you, too, and be a strong impulse to cry unto the Lord for this suffering mother. As she herself writes, it is more than money she wants—it is to save their lives from destruction. Put yourselves into her place and make your petition deep, that He who healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds, He who came into the world in the darkest hour to be light and life, may come into her despairing heart in this dark hour of her life.

You already know the story of the family who came from Germany—you know Chella and Isaac—and I will only add to the story by telling you that more trouble has come, because of neglect and insufficient care. The children have been covered with sores from head to foot. We pay for them and, to some extent, clothe them, but a little child needs more—it needs a mother's love and care.

Now let the letter speak. It is a literal translation from Yiddish. You will look into the heart of a Jewish mother, with God-given love for her children. (I have never seen deeper love for their children manifested anywhere than among the Jewish mothers here, even among the poorest.) You will see how a mother, not knowing Christ but having faith in the God of her fathers, suffers because she is a daughter of Abraham. She wrote to her husband as follows:

Beloved Salomon and Precious Children (Let them live and be healthy):

Seven months have passed since I last saw you. What fearful days and painful nights I have endured for this period of time! Are you able to understand what a mother suffers because of being separated from her children, knowing that they are suffering cold and hunger, being forsaken? Oh, how fearful I am! Many times, in the middle of the night, I dream that my children have no place to sleep. Then I awake with a cry.

Lately a horrible thought came into my mind and has been pursuing me, that I should put an end to my sufferings—I cannot stand the sufferings any longer!

The last fourteen weeks I have earned nothing and have not been able to pay anything for little Bevely. I am afraid he suffers hunger. How dreadful I feel! My heart is sore. What you wrote me about God bringing us low, and His purpose in it, to bring us to Himself, I must answer you that I do not understand this.

I must tell you that from the beginning of this month I shall not have where to lay my head. I cannot even pay my way to come to Warsaw to you. You have often written me that I should not come, because we have no home. If that is so, all ways and doors are closed to me. I am 33 years of age. How awful it is to die, having three little children!

This letter is covered with tears of thanksgiving to Miss Christoffersen and Mr. P. R. for their great hearts, and a despairing mother thanks them. I shall remember them even in the last minutes of my life.

Even my coat I have sold, and now I suffer cold and loneliness. I wait for your answer. Write me soon whether there is a place to which I can come. Try to have a talk with the noble and kind friends of the mission—I mean Miss Christoffersen and Mr. P. R. I know it is almost impossible for you to talk about this—I myself

would not dare to open my mouth to anyone. But I know where there is a great heart, there is also a will to do good. This problem is more than money—it is to build our home again and to save our lives.

I am lonely, miserable, and without hope. I know that you, too, are suffering and by writing this I am only adding to your sufferings. But I cannot suffer any longer! I cry unto you and ask you not to break down, but to stand firm! If you should hear bad news from me, be prepared.

I pray God that my letter may find you and the children well. Take the children in your arms and kiss them for me, just as I would do myself.

Your miserable wife and despairing mother.

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## BODY AND SOUL MINISTRY

By Dr. James Ewke

(Czechoslovakia)

ALTHOUGH I cannot say that I have many sensational experiences to report at this time, yet I endeavor to sow the seed at every opportunity, bearing testimony to His wonderful grace. Because there are few people who are fortunate enough to have no physical ailment, therefore, many of my acquaintances usually close their conversations with me with a request for medical aid and advice. Thus it happens that I am now very well acquainted with all the diseases of my acquaintances in the Russian and Ukrainian colonies here in Cernosice, and am frequently called upon to act as their physician.

Every Saturday evening I visit the aged Ukrainian writer, about whom I wrote to you before. He is a very wise man, with a calm, quiet demeanor. I like to hear him speak. Moreover, the atmosphere of his room is conducive to prolonged conversations. An agreeable warmth emanates from the oven in the corner of the room, the electric lamp under a pale blue lamp-shade pours out a mild light, the room is quiet, and everything is so inviting that my calls sometimes extend over many hours.

"When I was a boy," this writer once told me, "I believed very deeply and sincerely in God, but now I cannot believe as I did. If I could believe in God as you do, Doctor, I should be very happy." His health is rather poor, and from time to time he consults me about it, asking for advice and prescriptions. Every time I call on him, I watch for opportunities to testify and to exhort him to receive Jesus Christ as his Saviour. "We must always be ready," I often say to him, "for a sudden call into eternity, where we must face God, with whom we should become reconciled in this life. Besides this, if you were a believer, you would have so many opportunities to influence your readers and change their lives, with the help of God."

The lodging of the above-mentioned writer (he is a dramatist) becomes, from time to time, like a club, where his numerous acquaintances gather, among them being Russian, Ukrainian, and Georgian emigrants of different professions, such as artists, professors, politicians, etc. When I am occasionally present at such gatherings, my Ukrainian friend introduces me to them. When they meet, they feverishly discuss political themes (the subject for discussion last time being the Italian-Abyssinian war) and sometimes ask me for my opinion. Giving them a short answer on the subject in question, I usually endeavor to turn their thoughts to God's peace and love. Sometimes this proves to be a very difficult task when my hearers are burning with strong animosity toward one side or the other.

One of the dramatist's visitors was formerly an artist, but at present is a drunkard and ill. More than once it has happened, when the meeting was over, that we continued our conversation with the artist outside on the street. I tried to point him to Jesus, who alone is able to rescue every man from the chains of sin. Recently he was awakened from sleep several times by hemorrhages and he asked me for advice and help. I explained to him that this is the result of frequent intoxication and warned him that the end might come suddenly. "You must repent and be ready to meet the Lord," I frequently tell him. Won't the readers of this magazine pray with me for this darkened soul?

The work with the tracts, which Mr. Charles Lukesh supplies me, is widening. Many are eagerly waiting for the new tracts which I receive each month from Mr. Lukesh.

At the present time I am looking forward to giving a series of lectures in different places in Prague on the theme, "Christ and His Patients."

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"It is impossible for that man to despair who remembers that his Helper is omnipotent."

# "With God Nothing Is Impossible"

By Philip Manetz (Poland)

"BLESSED be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation" (Psa. 68:19).

The blessed year of 1935 is almost at an end. As we look back over the days, weeks, and months, we see the gracious hand of God was upon us for good. We were privileged to share the manifold mercies of God, and innumerable blessings were our lot. Praise God!

Thank God for answered prayer. I was in Warsaw recently to see about the renewal of my visa, and it was granted for six months, up to April 14th, 1936. God has graciously undertaken right along in the matter of my visa. There was a time when it seemed as though I must get out of Poland within a month, but in answer to prayer God overruled the hearts of men and I am still here, by the grace of God. "Behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it" (Rev. 3:8).

Just right here, I want to tell you, to the glory of God, of an incident which happened, to which I was a witness. I stayed in the Christian orphanage for two weeks and a half while I was waiting for my visa, and it was just at this time that a terrible accident occurred. In the orphanage they have a Christian janitor, or handyman, to do the general work around the place. He was given two weeks' vacation and, of course, he planned to preach the gospel in the vicinity of Warsaw during this time. As he was riding on his bicycle, he suddenly became dizzy and ran into a telegraph pole, which threw him to the ground unconscious. When he regained consciousness he had unbearable pain in his head, and the physician, after a thorough examination, said that he could not possibly live as he had injured his brain. This verdict caused great grief to his wife and all his friends in the orphanage.

However, "man's extremity is God's opportunity." We put our trust in the eternal, infallible Word of God (Matt. 18:19; John 14:13-14; James 5:13-16). I suggested to the Christian sisters in the orphanage that we have three days of fasting and prayer, that, if it pleased the Lord, the prayer of faith might save the sick and the Lord might raise him up. Of course, it was unanimously decided that we should do this. God graciously answered the prayer of faith and restored the brother to normal health and strength. The grief and tears of his friends turned into great joy and thanksgiving. The faith of us all in God and His precious Word, was greatly strengthened. "For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil" (I Peter 3:12). May God be praised forever!

We have also seen a great work of grace wrought in the hearts of men. "Children of wrath" have become children of God by the gospel of Christ through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 1:16). I told you in my last letter about the conversion of a certain communist in our village, who caused quite a bit of disturbance in our gospel meetings when I first came to the village about four years ago. We now have better news to tell you about him. He is no longer a disturber, but a helper and a partaker in the gospel work. On Sept. 21, 1935, both he and his wife were baptized and received into the church and had Christian fellowship with us in remembrance of the Lord's death. We are now holding gospel meetings in his house. His fifteen-year-old son has also accepted Christ. Praise God! "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes" (Psa. 118:23). Pray that they may "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ" (II Pet. 3:18). At present his wife is very sick, even unto death. Please pray that God may be glorified, whether she lives or dies.

Continue to pray for the Lord's work here. He is beginning to show us tokens that our prayers and labors for Him are not in vain. We are expecting great things from the Lord in the near future.

There are twenty villages within our reach, for which we crave your special prayers. Please pray that God may pour out a mighty spirit of REVIVAL on these villages. Ask God's blessing upon the tracts, Gospels, spiritual literature, etc.

The coming of the Lord draweth nigh; watch ye, therefore, and pray. I covet the prayers of God's people, and I thank God for every prayer which ascends to the throne of grace for me.

## LAW VERSUS GRACE

By J. I. Schnapp

(Roumania)

OUR brother, Dr. John H. Wilkinson, who was working with me here for a few days, under the manifest blessing of God, made my heart glad by staying with me one day more on his way back from Kischeneff, in order that he might be present at my missionary meeting.

The grace of our Lord is always with us, according to His promise, and so as I work I constantly remember the words of our Lord: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matt. 28:20). These holy words have made an impression upon my feeble heart.

On the last day of the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles, which is also called "Joy of the Law," we had a very well attended meeting. I told this gathering of Jews, among other things: "When the law was given, it was not accompanied by the sweet tone of a harp nor the song of angels, but by the fearful sound of dreadful thunder. That day at Horeb is a type of the work of the law in our nature—the law acts the same in our hearts and consciences. And God wants it to be that way, so that you, my national companions, may see the flame Moses saw and forever give up all hope of finding access to God through the works of the law.

"If the Lord permitted the great depth of the fountain of our corruption to be opened up, the mountain peaks of our self-righteousness would be covered with fear. There is enough powder stored away in the center of our beings to consume us in a moment, if the grace of God, which is given to us through our Messiah, Jesus Christ, did not prevent it.

"If you, my dear people, would accept that, the Mediator between God and men would become very precious and indispensable to you. Then only could Christ, our Lord, in His tender love and mercy, bless you and lay upon you, the children of Israel, His hands, which have been pierced for your sins and mine, and reconcile you unto God the Father. Then this would be a real celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles."

Our Lord has richly blessed me in going to Radanti each month. Please remember me in your prayers.

## AMONG RUSSIANS IN MANCHURIA

By S. P. Badantseff

I PAID a visit to the people in the town of Hailar, in Mongolia, about 800 kilometers from Harbin, where I had been invited to conduct evangelistic meetings and have charge of a baptismal service. A husband and wife, members of the Greek Catholic Church, were brought to Christ. They had had an opportunity to hear the gospel message through various Protestant denominations, but, after much thought and prayer, they decided to join the Evangelical Church. I must mention, to my regret, that there is no place there to hold meetings because of lack of means. Moreover, there is no preacher to explain to them the Word of God. It is very difficult for us to go there from Harbin, as it is quite a distance from us and we do not have means to pay the carfare.

On my way back to Harbin, I visited the small town of Bukhada, in order that I might have fellowship with the Christian people there. I found that various denominations had been preaching there, one after the other, some of them not being really Scriptural, and after going through these experiences the people did not trust any preacher or care to listen to him. With the help of the Lord, I tried to explain to them the real meaning of the Word of God, but all my desires to organize even one prayer meeting proved futile. Besides the indifference of the people, there was also opposition on the part of the authorities. The police forbade me to conduct any meetings. But I know that everything is in the hands of the Lord and I am serving Him.

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## OUR FAITHFUL GOD

We have this for our confidence and encouragement that *God is faithful*. We may have failed; we may have broken down, and with shame of face we have to confess that break-down is everywhere; but God is faithful, and the God of Pentecost, the God that Paul knew, the God of the Ephesian Epistle, is the God who abides to-day in His mighty resources, and those resources are in Jesus Christ, our Lord Himself, and we may turn to Him and find His resources to be enough for us.

He has not abandoned His present purpose for us, and we should not abandon it either.—*J. T. Mawson.*